

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
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O 291819Z JUL 78 ZFF4  
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1796  
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE  
CNUESLZ/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 3215

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, BL, CO, CR, VN, ME

SUBJECT: BOLIVA-RECOGNITION

REF: STATE 191842

1. SUMMARY: FONMIN CALDERON GRATEFUL FOR FURTHER DETAIL AS TO  
USG POSITION RE BOLIVIA AND OUR INTEREST IN OBTAINING GOCR VIEWS.  
PRESIDENT CARAZO DISCUSSED MATTER IN CABINET MEETING JULY 27.  
GOCR POSITION AND LIMITED PUBLIC MENTION TO DATE REMAIN  
CONSISTENT WITH OUR "PRESENT INTENTIONS" AS DESCRIBED IN

REFTEL. FONMIN ADVISES THAT CARAZO IS SENDING PRESIDENT  
CARTER A LETTER OF GENERAL NATURE SHARING PREOCCUPATION WITH  
EVENTS AND INDICATING HOPE THAT BOLIVIA WILL RESPECT HUMAN  
RIGHTS AND RETURN TO DEMOCRATIC PROCESS. CALDERON DOES NOT SEE  
ANY NECESSARILY DAMAGING SIDE-EFFECTS WITH REGARD TO DOMINICAN  
REPUBLIC AND ECUADOR FROM OUR PRESENT AND PROPOSED  
STANCSS ON BOLIVIA, BUT IN ANY CASE PERCEIVES NO GOOD ALTERNATIVES  
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TO CURRENT POSTURE.

2. I CALLED ON FONMIN CALDERON MORNING JULY 29 TO DISCUSS OUR  
RELATIONS WITH BOLIVIA AND SEEK HIS VIEWS AS REQUESTED IN PARA. 4  
REFTEL. THERE HAS BEEN ONLY LIMITED PUBLIC ATTENTION HERE  
TO DATE. IN RESPONSE TO A FEW MEDIA INQUIRIES, CALDERON ALSO HAS  
AVOIDED THE QUESTION OF RECOGNITION AND HAS KEPT HIS RESPONSES TO

EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN OVER PRESERVATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND AN  
EARLY RETURN TO DEMOCRATIC PROCESS.

3. CARAZO, CALDERON ADVISED, RAISED THE MATTER IN HIS JULY 27  
CABINET MEETING IN THE CONTEXT OF A PROPOSED LETTER TO PRESIDENT  
CARTER. HE READ ME PRINCIPAL PARTS OF THE DRAFT,  
WHICH EXPRESS BRIEFLY GOCR CONCERN OVER BOLIVIAN EVENTS AND  
GO ON TO REITERATE COSTA RICA'S CONTINUING PREOCCUPATION WITH  
HUMAN RIGHTS DEVELOPMENTS GENERALLY.

4. THE GOCR TENDS TO VIEW THE BOLIVIAN SITUATION AS DISTINCT FROM  
THAT OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, CALDERON STATED, BOTH IN TERMS OF  
WHAT HAS TRANSPIRED AND, TO A GREAT DEGREE, EXPECTATIONS. HE POINTED  
OUT THAT IN THE LATTER CASE, ELECTIONS OF A SUBSTANTIALLY FREE NATURE  
HAD OCCURRED, WITH A CLEAR VICTORY FOR THE OPPOSITION CANDIDATE, AS  
OPPOSED TO A VERY DIFFERENT PRE-ELECTORAL, ELECTORAL AND POST-ELECTORA  
L  
SCENARIO IN BOLIVIA. HE SEES THE NEED FOR "LOSS-LIMITING" REACTIONS  
TO PEREDA'S CURRENT BIND, AGREEING THAT THE SITUATION NEEDS  
CLOSE WATCHING. WHATEVER PRESSURES THAT CAN BE BROUGHT TO BEAR, HE  
CONCURS, AT LEAST FOR NOW, SHOULD SEEK TO INSURE THAT PEREDA  
ADHERES TO HIS STATEMENTS, PARTICULARLY THE TIMETABLE FOR NEW AND  
IMPROVED ELECTION PERFORMANCE. COMPARED TO WHAT HAS HAPPENED IN  
THE CASE OF PANAMA, CHILE, ETC., CALDERON REMARKED, A YEAR AND  
A HALF OR TWO YEAR INTERRUPTION IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS HAS TO  
LOOK PRETTY GOOD, IF PEREDA LIVES UP TO IT.  
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5. CALDERON RECOGNIZES THAT THE CURRENT AND PLANNED USG POSTURE  
COULD BE MISINTERPRETED BY ELEMENTS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC  
AND ECUADOR BUT FRANKLY DOES NOT SEE ANY GOOD ALTERNATIVES. IN THE  
CASE OF COSTA RICA, HE REPORTED THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME THE GOCR  
PLANS TO NAME A COUNSELOR-CONSUL GENERAL IN LA PAZ IN OCTOBER TO  
PROVIDE PAID, FULL-TIME REPRESENTATION. IT WILL BE A COUSIN OF  
PRESIDENT CARAZO. HOWEVER, THE GOCR WILL REVIEW THE MATTER IN  
THE LIGHT OF FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS BEFORE SENDING THE LADY TO LA PAZ.

6. CALDERON CONCLUDED BY REPEATING THAT THE MORAL TONE OF THE CARTEG  
L  
ADMINISTRATION IN ITS DEALINGS WITH LATIN AMERICA REMAINS THE KEY  
TO CONTINUING HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRESS AND THAT HE HOPES NECESSARY STEPS  
,  
EVEN THOSE ECONOMIC IN NATURE, WILL BE TAKEN TO PRESERVE THAT TONE,  
WHATEVER IMPERIALIST INTERPRETATION THAT WILL GENERATE IN SOME  
CIRCLES.

7. COMMENT: THE NOT-TOO-PAROCHIAL PERIMETER OF COSTA RICA'S  
FOREIGN POLICY INTERESTS DOES NOT OFTEN EXTEND MUCH BEYOND PANAMA,  
COLOMBIA AND VENEZUELA TO THE SOUTH EXCEPT ON MULTILATERAL MATTERS.

AS EARLIER REPORTED, CARAZO'S FIRST COMMENTS TO ME ON THE BOLIVIAN  
SITUATION WERE THAT IT IS A COUNTRY "A BIT FAR AND A BIT STRANGE."  
BECAUSE OF THIS, THE GOCR AND COSTA RICAN PUBLIC CONSIDER DEVELOP-  
MENTS  
THERE WORRISOME, BUT NOT NEARLY AS SIGNIFICANT AS WHAT TRANSPIRED IN  
THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. JUDGING OUR CURRENT AND PROPOSED POSTURE TO  
BE  
SOUND AND PRAGMATIC, THEY FIND IT REASONABLE FOR NOW.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** RECOGNITION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION  
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**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014